

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

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FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1570

C O N F I D E N T I A L BOGOTA 1845

E O 11652 GDS

TAGS OCON, PFOR, MEX, CO

SUBJ: FORNMIN'S REACTIONS TO CONFERENCE

1. BEGIN SUMMARY: WHILE FORNMIN VAZQUEZ IS PLEASED THAT MEXICAN CONFERENCE MADE SOLID PROGRESS, HE IS MIFFED THAT HE WAS NOT INCLUDED IN DRAFTING COMMITTEE AND COMPLAINED THAT HE DID NOT SEE FINAL COMMUNIQUE UNTIL A FEW MINUTES BEFORE THE SIGNING. HE BELIEVES MEXICAN FORNMIN LEFT OUT OF COMMUNIQUE MANY OF THE MOST IMPORTANT CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE SECY. VAZQUEZ WILL INSIST AT ATLANTA MEETING THAT RULES BE CLARIFIED REGARDING DRAFTING OF COMMUNIQUE. VAZQUEZ BELIEVES STRONGLY THAT THE ATLANTA CONFERENCE MUST DEMONSTRATE ITS ABILITY TO ACHIEVE CONCRETE RESULTS; OTHERWISE USEFULNESS OF PERIODIC MEETINGS OF FORNMINS MAY WELL COME TO A SPEEDY END. END SUMMARY

2. AT MY REQUEST, I MET WITH FORNMIN VAZQUEZ MAR 1 (ONE) TO DELIVER TEXT OF LETTER FROM SECY ALONG WITH PHOTOS OF THE SECY AND VAZQUEZ MEETING IN WASHINGTON AS WELL AS TO OBTAIN ANY REACTIONS FLOWING FROM THE MEXICO CONFERENCE THAT MIGHT PROVE USEFUL TO THE DEPT IN PLANNING THE ATLANTA CONFERENCE OF FORNMINS. VAZQUEZ WAS HIGHLY PLEASED WITH THE LETTER AND PHOTOS AND ASKED IF HE COULD RELEASE THEM TO THE PRESS.

3. ON THE MEXICO CITY CONFERENCE, VAZQUEZ HAS AMBIVALENT REACTIONS.
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HE RECOGNIZES THAT THE MEETING PROVED SUCCESSFUL AND STATED

EXPLICITLY THAT THE SECY ESTABLISHED SOLID COMMUNICATION WITH THE FORNMINS BASED ON THE REALITIES OF THE HEMISPHERE. UNFORTUNATELY HOWEVER, MEXICAN FORNMIN RABASSA DAMAGED VAZQUEZ' AMOUR-PROPRE BY NOT INCLUDING HIM ON THE DRAFTING COMMITTEE. VAZQUEZ IS ALSO UNHAPPY WITH THE FINAL COMMUNIQUE. HE COMPLAINED THAT THE COMMUNIQUE DID NOT INCLUDE SOME OF THE MOST IMPORTANT STATEMENTS AND OPINIONS OF THE SECY AND WAS ESPECIALLY INDIGNANT THAT THE EFFECT OF HIGHER PRICES AND THE PROBLEM OF GATT HAD BEEN VIRTUALLY IGNORED. AT ATLANTA, VAZQUEZ STATED, THE COMMUNIQUE SHOULD BE SHORTER, MORE COHERENT, MORE CONCRETE, A POLIT DOCUMENT DESIGNED TO CONVINCE THE PRESS AND HEMISPHERIC OPINION THAT WE ARE MAKING REAL PROGRESS. VAZQUEZ SAID THAT IF THE ATLANTA CONFERENCE DOES NOT COME UP WITH SOME IMPORTANT ACCOMPLISHMENTS THEN QTE THE FUTURE OF THIS MECHANISM IS VERY MUCH IN DOUBT UNQTE.

4. AT THE DEPT'S REQUEST I QUERIED VAZQUEZ REGARDING THE PROCEDURE HE FOLLOWED IN SENDING INVITATIONS TO THE BOGOTA CONFERENCE. HE CONFIRMED MY IMPRESSION THAT HE CONSULTED WITH NO ONE EXCEPT AN INFORMAL TALK WITH FORN MIN CALVANI OF VENEZUELA TO DETERMINE HIS REACTION TO VAZQUEZ' INTENTION TO INVITE GUYANA.

5. REGARDING THE ATLANTA CONFERENCE ARRANGEMENTS, VAZQUEZ SAID HE STRONGLY ADVISED US NOT TO HOLD THE FORNMIN'S CONFERENCE IN THE SAME HOTEL AS THE OAS CONFERENCE. HE POINTED OUT THAT THIS WOULD MAKE THE FORNMINS CONFERENCE A SIDESHOW OF THE OAS. THIS BROUGHT UP THE QUESTION OF AN INVITATION TO GALO PLAZA. VAZQUEZ CONFIRMED THAT HE HAD INVITED PLAZA TO BOGOTA IN HIS PERSONAL CAPACITY. VAZQUEZ SAID THE SIGN IN FRONT OF PLAZA AT THE BOGOTA CONFERENCE MADE NO MENTION OF THE OAS BUT MERELY SAID QTE SPECIAL INVITEE UNQTE. WHEN VAZQUEZ CALLED ON PLAZA TO SPEAK HE REFERRED TO HIM AS QTE THE FORMER PRES OF ECUADOR UNQTE. VAZQUEZ SAID THAT AT BOGOTA, VENEZUELA HAD REQUESTED CLARIFICATION OF GALO PLAZA'S PRESENCE AT THE CONFERENCE. VAZQUEZ SAID THAT HE THOUGHT THE US WOULD HAVE TO INVITE PLAZA BUT THAT THIS MADE IT ALL THE MORE IMPORTANT NOT TO HOLD THE TWO CONFERENCES AT THE SAME SITE FOR NEWSMEN WOULD NOT UNDERSTAND THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE TWO CONFERENCES AND GALO PLAZA WOULD ENCOURAGE THIS CONFUSION IN ORDER TO ADD TO HIS STATURE AND THAT OF THE OAS.

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6. AS I WAS LEAVING, VAZQUEZ RETURNED TO THE SUBJ OF THE MEXICO CONFERENCE ASSERTING WITH SOME PIQUE THAT HE HAD NOT SEEN THE FINAL COMMUNIQUE UNTIL TWENTY MINUTES BEFORE IT WAS ANNOUNCED. HE ADDED THAT AT ATLANTA HE WOULD DEMAND THAT THE RULES REGARDING THE PREPARATION OF THE COMMUNIQUE BE CLARIFIED. HE POINTED OUT THAT NO ANDEAN PACT FORNMIN HAD BEEN APPOINTED TO THE DRAFTING COMMITTEE AND SAID THAT AT ATLANTA THE DRAFTING COMMITTEE

SHOULD INCLUDE, IN ADDITION TO A MEXICAN, A BRAZILIAN,
AND AN ARGENTINE, ONE REP EACH FROM THE CONTINENT'S SUB-GROUPINGS,
I.E. CENTRAL AMERICA, CARIBBEAN, ANDEAN PACT AND THE SMALLER
COUNTRIES OF LOWER SOUTH AMERICA. WHITE

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